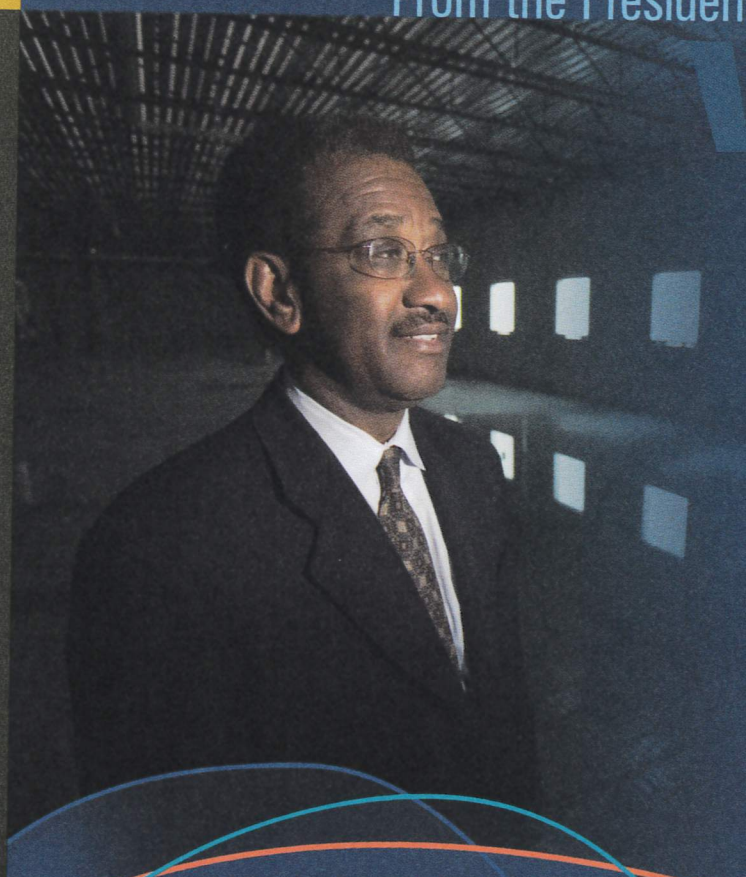
forces for innovation

Palm Beach Community College

2006-07 President's Report

pbcc

From the President Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.

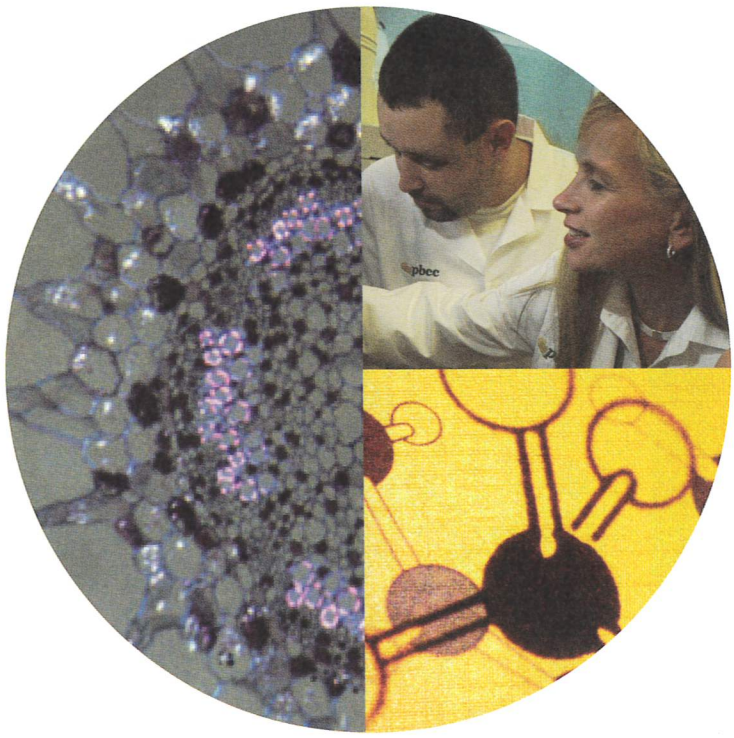


Visionary computer scientist and scholar Alan Key asserts that the best way to predict the future is to invent it. At Palm Beach Community College, we are creating the pathways to success for tomorrow's students through the many innovations underway today.

As our region strives to re-invent itself as a biotechnology research hub, PBCC is constructing new learning facilities and enhancing programs in the biosciences and allied health fields. Using innovative delivery, the College is expanding the local workforce in high-demand fields such as nuclear medicine, teaching, nursing and construction trades. At the same time, we are investing in state-of-the-art instructional technology and new educational environments to fully equip our students for the modern workplace.

This report provides but a brief overview of the advancements that have been made over the last two years. It also provides a forum to celebrate and to thank those in the community who have supported PBCC so strongly by sharing their time, talents and resources. Working together with these partners and patrons, Palm Beach Community College is inventing its future as a strong and vibrant force for innovation and success. To learn more about these efforts, please read on.

forces for innovation

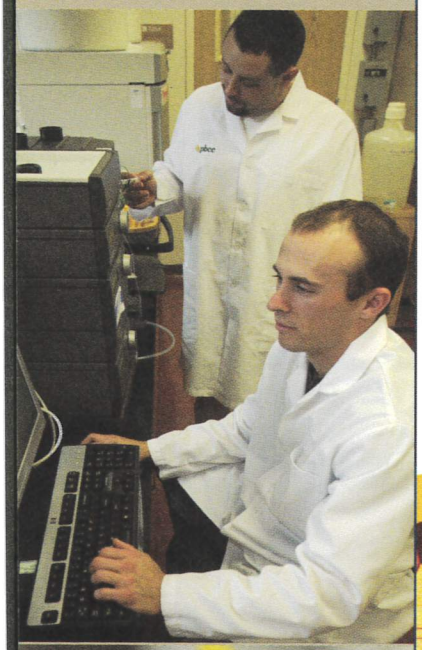


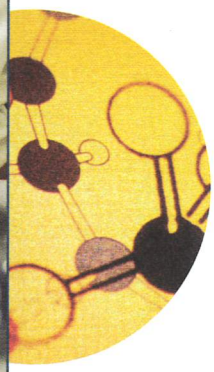
Academic Technology & Excellence

Creating Student Access

Reaching Out to the Community

Academic Technology & Excellence





PBCC is poised to make its mark in biotechnology

When you think of creating an infrastructure to support the county's emerging biotechnology industry, you might not identify a community college as a key player. If you haven't, you will.

Palm Beach Community College's president, Dr. Dennis Gallon, has been a driving force for a biotechnology program at the College, working closely with a new Board of Trustees member, Ken Kirby. A PBCC alumnus, Kirby is president and founder of a biotech firm, TransDermal Technologies, Inc. The two have attended conferences in London and Chicago and have participated in countless local meetings on biotech matters. They've also relied on the enormous efforts of one academic dean to be sure that PBCC makes its own unique contribution to biotechnology.

PBCC is a vital link in creating a pipeline for trained workers in the biosciences, says Edward Willey, dean of academic affairs at PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens where the BioScience Technology Complex is being built. He's collaborated with high schools and universities to create a science curriculum for both transfer and career degrees at PBCC so that a "seamless education" for students occurs. Getting a solid foundation in science and bioscience at PBCC will help students earn a transfer degree (associate in arts) or a career degree (associate in science).

"We do the first two years so well," Willey said, "and the associate in science degree can provide students employment as badly needed research associates and lab technicians while they're working on their bachelor's degree."

Creating the right curriculum for both degrees has involved making connections with the life sciences and business communities. Willey's science background as a respiratory therapist and instructor has been invaluable to convincing skeptics that PBCC can play a critical role in creating a comprehensive career ladder for future scientists. So, too, has his friendly and jovial nature.

"It's been essential that we have someone out there to envision where we should be collaborating and making our contribution," said Dr. Patricia Anderson, provost of the Palm Beach Gardens campus. "Ed has the knowledge, expertise and personality to do that."

Willey worked on a state consortium to

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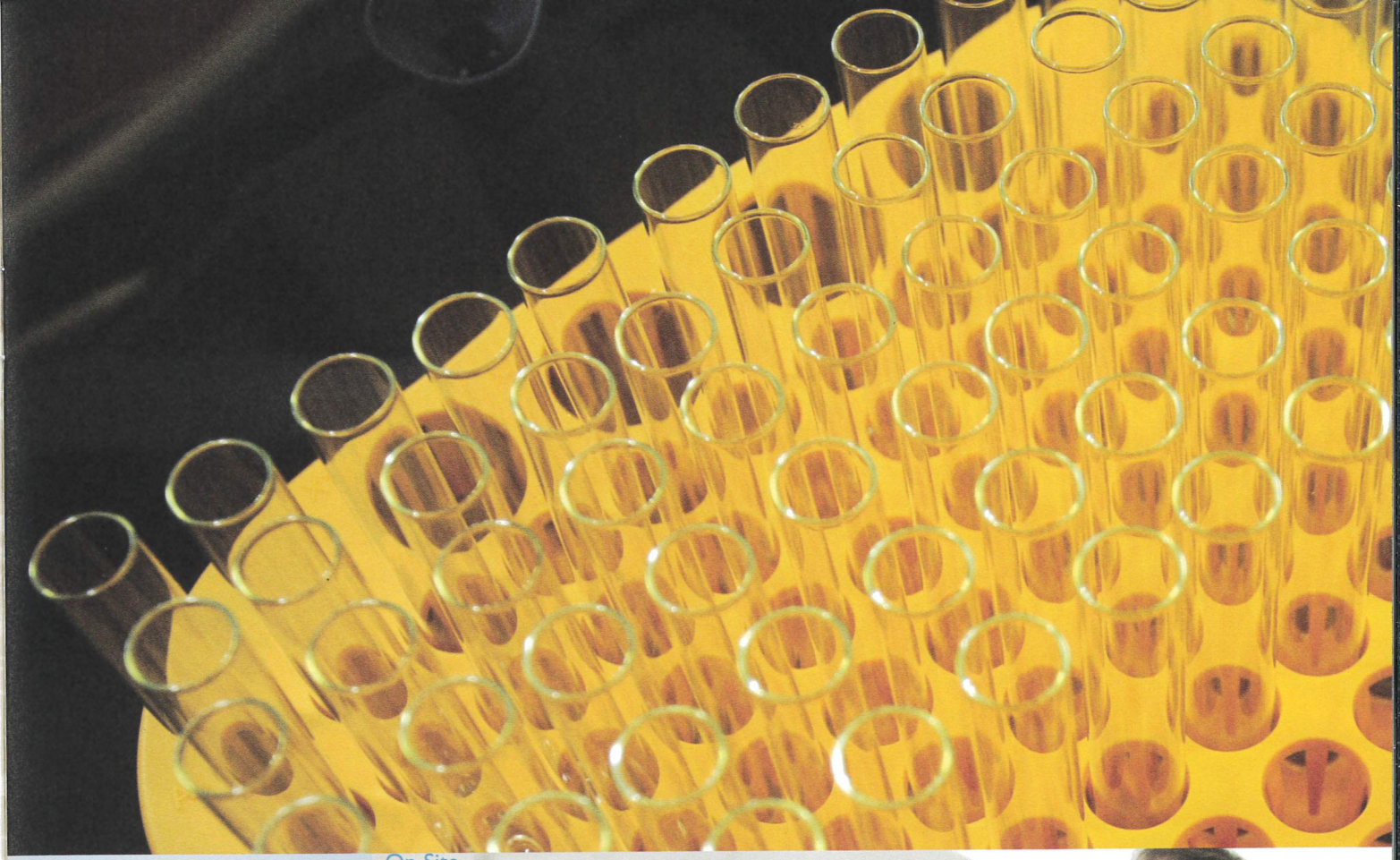
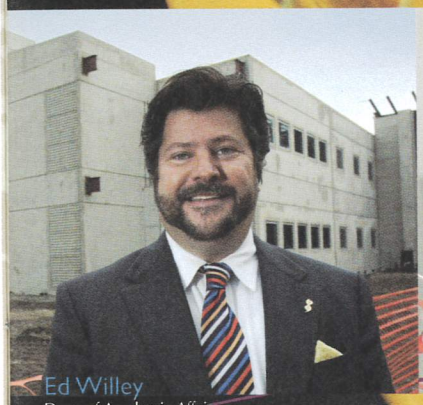
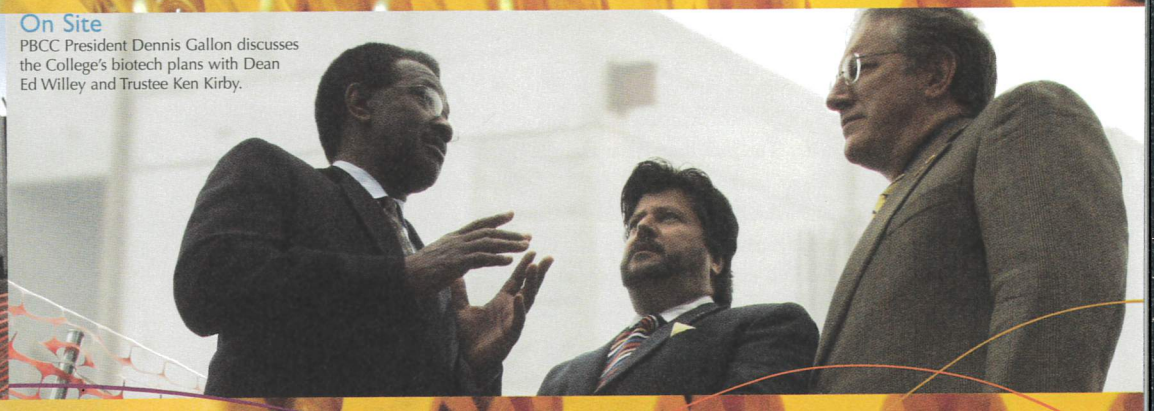




Ed Willey
Dean of Academic Affairs
at PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens

On Site
PBCC President Dennis Gallon discusses the College's biotech plans with Dean Ed Willey and Trustee Ken Kirby.



"The PBCC bioscience program can be a portal of entry into the biotech industry."
Libby Handel, Ph.D., Director of Biotechnology Programs

develop a science curriculum for Florida community colleges that would relate core sciences to biotechnology. Also, his recommendations were adopted by a four-member consortium of colleges who have been building science facilities using the same architectural plan. PBCC's BioScience Technology Complex in Palm Beach Gardens and science building at PBCC in Lake Worth are part of that consortium.

The new science complex in Palm Beach Gardens will house core sciences, biotech classrooms and labs, environmental science, environmental horticulture and a wellness center. The building will make a huge difference in the well established environmental science and environmental horticulture programs, too, allowing them to do research and experiments in their modern labs they couldn't do before.

The College recently hired Dr. Libby Handel as director of biotechnology programs; Handel has a Ph.D. in experimental pathology and has conducted molecular biology research in the field of breast cancer. Since coming to PBCC, she's met with biotech businesses to assess their needs and begun establishing internships with them for biotech students. She's also advised potential students with bachelor's degrees in biology who want to earn an A.S. in biotechnology and be employed "before jumping into a Ph.D. program.

"The PBCC program can be a portal of entry into the biotech industry," Handel explained.

Kelly Smallridge is director of the county Business Development Board, which has coordinated biotech relocations and a life sciences cluster to develop an infrastructure. Smallridge said PBCC and its BioScience Technology Complex will be "an enticement as a serious site for relocating operations."

"The College has been a key partner in developing the cluster," she said, "and when we have our regular meetings, PBCC is always at the table."

Sharing technology expands diagnostic health programs

The diagnostic medical sonography program at PBCC is at full capacity, and securing enough sites at health care facilities for students to get their clinical experience is always a challenge. Sonography is just the type of program that has to be small, Professor Patty Braga said. Nuclear Medicine Technology has the same problem, yet both professions are in increasing demand.

To combat the problem, PBCC has teamed up with Indian River Community College where, like PBCC, business partners have requested that training be established. Through distance learning technology, classes are simulcast from one campus to another, sonography to IRCC and nuclear medicine to PBCC.

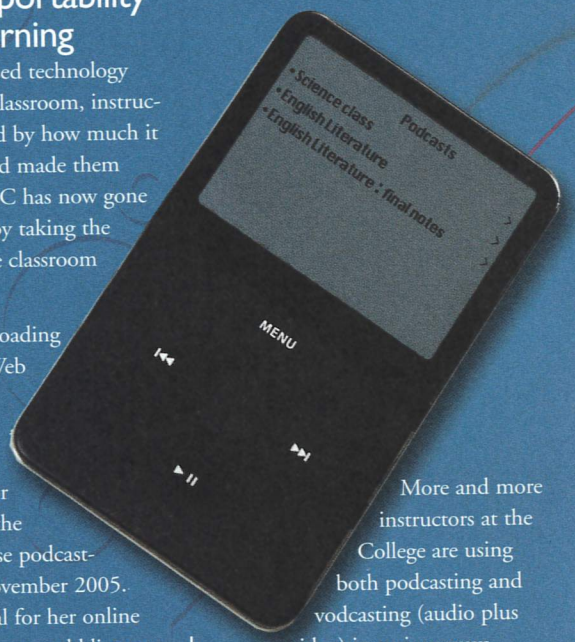
Federal grants made it possible to purchase the equipment, and students get their clinical experience in their locales. This kind of partnership isn't common in this field, Professor Braga said. "There's such a cost savings with this arrangement," she said. "Having satellite sites increases the possibilities."

Podcasting's portability enhances learning

When computer-based technology began entering the classroom, instructors were encouraged by how much it engaged students and made them better learners. PBCC has now gone a step beyond that by taking the classroom out of the classroom with podcasting.

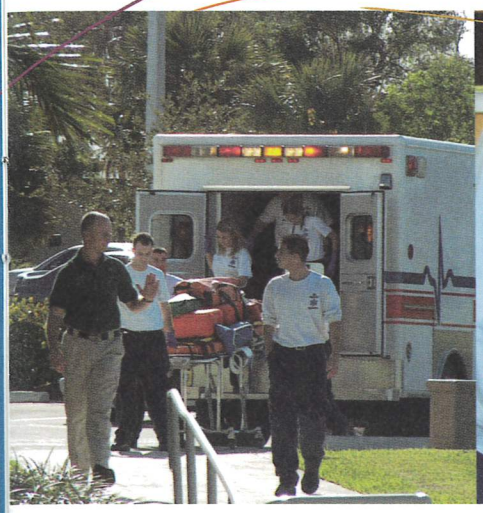
Jeannine Burgess
Director of instructional technology

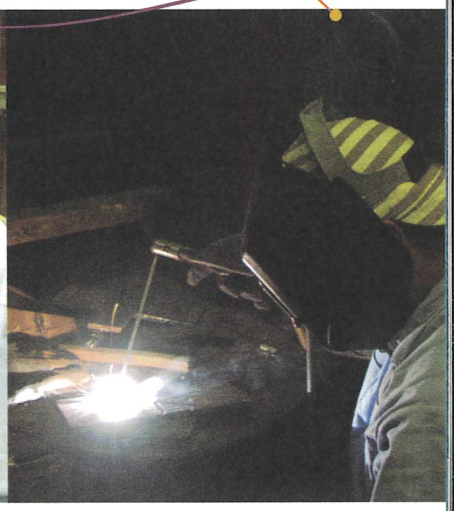
Podcasting is downloading audio files from a Web site onto an iPod, an MP3 player or a Web-enabled cell phone. Professor Sandy Oakley was the first instructor to use podcasting at PBCC in November 2005. Podcasting was ideal for her online Spanish class; students could listen to her pronunciation over and over again and pause whenever they needed to, at any time and any place. They could respond with their own podcasts so that she could evaluate their pronunciation and comprehension.



More and more instructors at the College are using both podcasting and vodcasting (audio plus video) in various ways. Jeannine Burgess, director of instructional technology, is brimming over with ideas for ways to use pod- and vod- casting: add music and make a lesson sound like a radio broadcast; prepare students before a class with a lecture, then place them in interactive groups with a critical thinking assignment; have students wear a microphone and record their classroom exercises for evaluation. Even staff members could use the technology; for example, the registrar could record a tour of the campus with instructions on how to apply and enroll, etc.

"I don't know where it's going to go, but I know where I want to take it," Burgess enthused. "It makes more people want to come to our college because we're using this type of technology."





Industrial programs at work behind the scenes

Exciting things are happening in the state-of-the-art teaching labs for diesel mechanics and welding in Lake Worth. Diesel's program instructor, Charles Johnson, has saved the College thousands of dollars by securing numerous donations of equipment from business partners and engages students with his infectious enthusiasm. The rigorous program will graduate its first class in July 2007, and it's gaining in popularity.

In welding classes, a robotic welder demonstrated its welding skills, and welding program manager Larry Rutkowski collaborated with EMT program manager Doug Trawick to remove a rescue vehicle from its chassis for Emergency Medical Technician students' practice. While diesel mechanics and welding are vital "behind the scenes" programs, says Jacqueline Rogers, dean of health sciences and occupational programs, "they are still very important for training students to earn a living and become economically stable."

Graduates of the programs can go on to earn career degrees in Industrial Operations Management, Rogers said. "They are good career paths for someone who may be underemployed and are another mechanism to provide a higher education."

Creating Student Access

Helen Shub
Director, Institute for Student Success, Title III Grant

Kathy Karran-McCoy, Ed.D.
Student Success Coordinator

Title III staff attacks "key stumbling block"

Title III federal funds are awarded to alleviate a college's "key stumbling block" to student success. When PBCC applied for these funds, one academic problem was identified that overshadows all the rest: mathematics, or, rather, the struggle to master the subject.

Because math is sequential, if a student misses a step, he's stuck there. Over 60 percent of PBCC's incoming freshmen have to take preparatory math to get them ready for college-level math, and just half make it through.

PBCC is in its fourth year of a five-year $1,750,000 Title III grant to improve success and retention rates for students in prep math. The four-member staff, directed by Helen Shub, is attacking the problem on every conceivable front, and they're beginning to see results. For example, the pass rate has doubled in the classes that have combined Prep Math II and Intermediate Algebra. In eight weeks of each subject, the students meet four times a week, becoming immersed in the subject. They bond into a cohort, helping one another, and are less distracted by other subjects they're taking.

That human touch is evident when training Student Learning Center tutors and placing them in math prep classrooms to help faculty by grading papers and help students by acting as mentors.

"We've raised the level of professionalism among tutors," explained Shub. "By putting them in the classrooms, they understand how the teachers are teaching, and there's a better bond between what goes on in the classroom and how the tutor supports the students."

Kathy Karran-McCoy, Ed.D., student success coordinator, said the Title III Institute for Student Success is being holistic in its approach. "There's a lot of helping prep math students that has nothing to do with math. Most also test into prep reading and English; there's a lot of overlap."

Family obligations, financial issues and lack of time hurt student performance, too, Shub said.

The Institute has established an "early alert system" for professors to notify Student Services when a student is falling behind. Counselors contact those students to offer them assistance. The Institute's comprehensive approach (team teaching, Math Awareness Week, math anxiety sessions, etc.) places math in a whole new light at PBCC.

The Institute has established an "early alert system" for professors to notify Student Services when a student is falling behind.

Building boom renews both art and science

The landscape is changing dramatically at Palm Beach Community College. In the last year PBCC broke ground on three new buildings and a pavilion, all slated for completion around the fall of 2007.

A $1 million dollar donation started the Countess de Hoernle Humanities and Technology Building groundbreaking Nov. 30, 2005. The four-story facility will feature innovative classrooms that promote collaborative learning and teaching. Classrooms will house drawing and painting, Web design, computer art, art history, foreign language and architecture classes. Music, art and theater appreciation classes also will be housed in new instructional areas.

A multi-purpose lecture hall will be equipped with satellite capabilities, and PBCC at Boca Raton will now be able to host visiting performers and film viewings, welcoming community members with an outdoor sculpture garden in an open courtyard.

The College passed a milestone April 20, 2006 when it broke ground for the BioScience Technology Complex in Palm Beach Gardens, President Dennis Gallon told the crowd of 146 people who attended the ceremony. With the theme "Linking to Discovery," officials from education, government, business, biotechnology and philanthropy joined together to form a picture of a DNA strand, emphasizing the college's links to each. New Board of Trustees member Ken Kirby, president of TransDermal Technologies, Inc., spoke about his years as a student at PBCC.

The 81,000-square-foot, $15 million BioScience Technology Complex will feature two buildings connected by a multi-media lecture hall and courtyard. One building will house state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories for the core sciences (biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, physics and chemistry). The other part of the complex is reserved for biotech classrooms and labs, environmental science, environmental horticulture and a wellness center.

Palm Beach Community College at Lake Worth broke ground May 12, 2006, to replace its aging science building with a $9.25 million, 50,000-square-foot facility that will house classes and laboratories for chemistry, biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology, physical science,

earth science, geology, physics and astronomy. The college will be able to offer an expanded science curriculum in the new facility. The strengthened science curriculum in Lake Worth also will be helpful to those studying applied science for career programs in nursing, dental and other allied health professions.

Finally, a special donation was given to PBCC by speech professor Dr. Nancy R. Levin, who has pledged $350,000 to PBCC in Palm Beach Gardens to build the Myrna Rubenstein Pavilion in the middle of the campus. The pavilion will start the $1 million project to build a "campus green" complete with tropical gardens, fountains, ponds and bridges.

"Having the pavilion and Campus Green will tie the whole campus together," said Dr. Patricia Anderson, provost in Palm Beach Gardens. "It will build student engagement as students gather to create social ties and meet with faculty. It will create a sense of belonging and promote student retention."

Forces for innovation!

Clockwise from the left:

Progress on the Countess de Hoernle Humanities and Technology Building in Boca Raton.

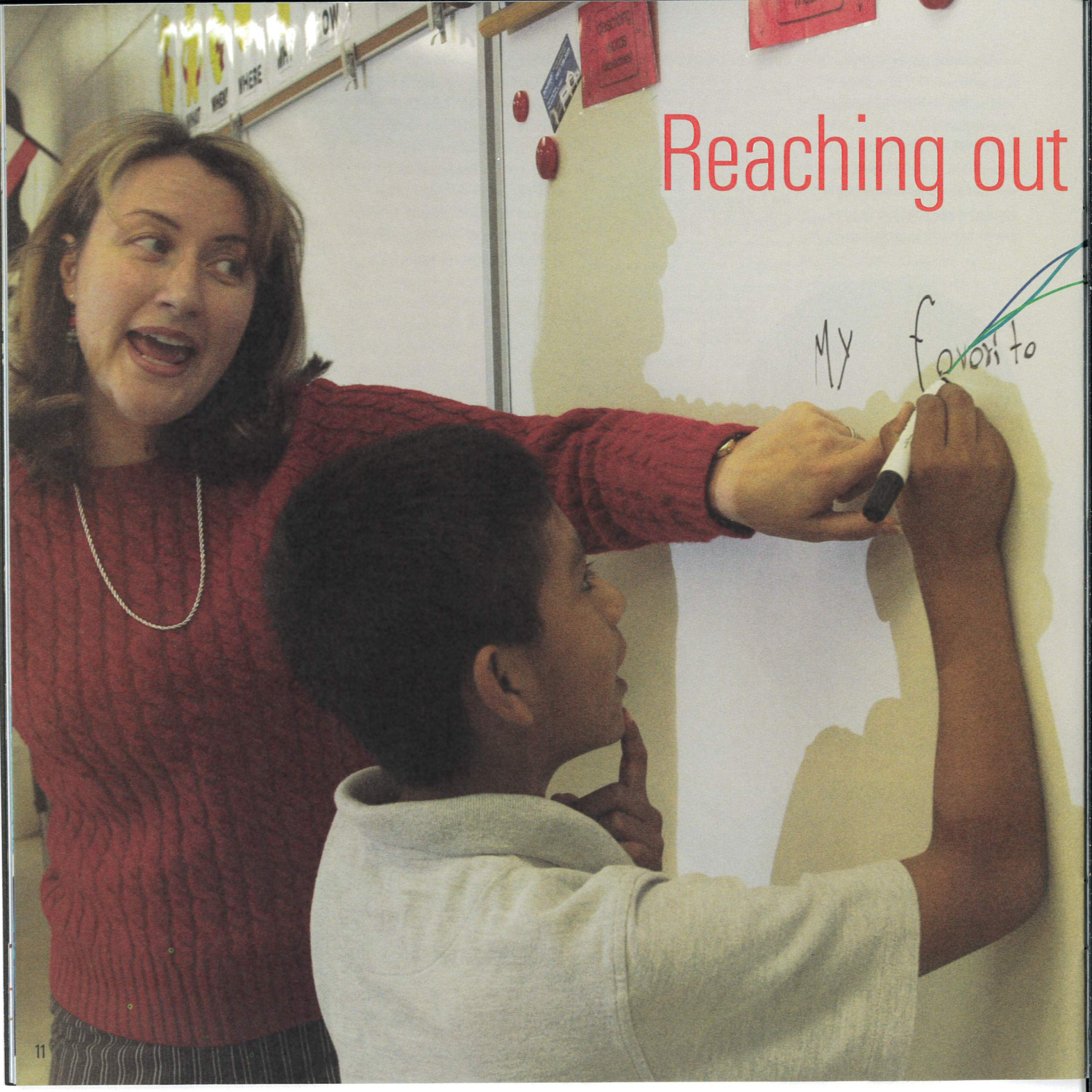
Dr. Patricia Anderson, Palm Beach Gardens provost, consults with STH architects Robert J. Thomas and Brad Garvin at the BioScience Complex construction site.

President Dennis Gallon breaks ground for the new Lake Worth Science Building with campus provost Dr. Maria Vallejo, biology professor Dr. Roger Ramsammy and associate dean Dr. Barry Moore.

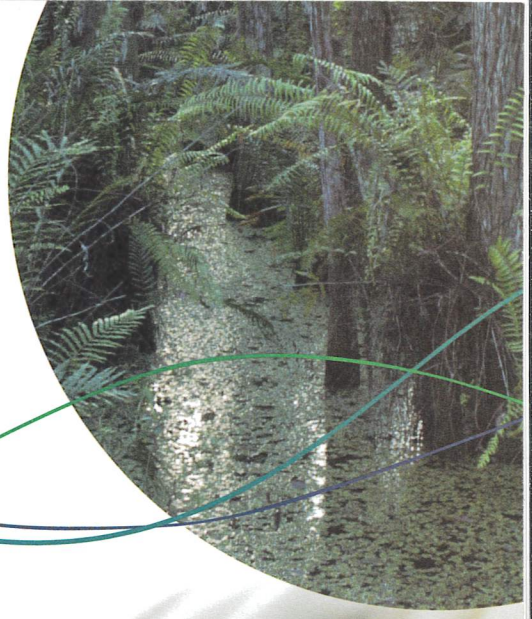
PBCC training more nurses with program innovations

The nursing administration and faculty had to be innovative to reach their goal of building capacity in the nursing program. Adding faculty and finding lab space and time were particular challenges. In the last year and a half, PBCC has added an evening-weekend registered nursing program and an RN program in Belle Glade plus converted the lecture portions of nurses' training to online nursing courses. The College currently has 419 registered nursing students enrolled and 60 practical nursing students. The evening and weekend hours and online courses give the department more flexibility with lab space and clinical experience in local health care facilities and better meet students' needs. Jacqueline Rogers, dean of health sciences and occupational programs, said they're exploring ways for students to practice lab skills online and then be tested in the lab, freeing up lab space even more.

Reaching out



t to the community



New grant helps train teachers

For several years PBCC has been leading the statewide community college initiative to alleviate the teaching shortage by developing programs to help professionals with bachelor's degrees to become teachers. The latest grant the College received, in 2006, was $151,000 for the Teacher Certification program from the SUCCEED, Florida! Career Education Grants. The new funds help participants gain competencies in areas such as classroom management, instructional strategies and technology, said Susan Caldwell, associate dean of academic affairs. The SUCCEED, Florida! grant will also help train program professors to develop Web components for their classes and attend professional development workshops.

PBCC reaches out to small businesses

PBCC's four-year effort to increase purchasing from small businesses and firms owned by women and minorities resulted in a giant leap last year – a 790 percent increase to almost $2.5 million dollars in 2005-06.

The College's purchasing department has held annual events to encourage "women/minority business expenditure" vendors, explaining how to get established with the College. College representatives also have attended additional events held by the City of West Palm Beach and other government entities, partnering with other colleges, cities and the county School Board.

PBCC training Glades residents to restore the Everglades

Palm Beach Community College received a $1.5 million Department of Labor grant in 2006 to build upon the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) Acceler8 initiative to expedite critical Everglades restoration projects. With an initial SFWMD grant for Acceler8, PBCC already has graduated 25 students in construction skills and 18 in heavy equipment operation.

PBCC is establishing a Glades Area Construction Institute at its Belle Glade location, targeting Glades area residents who have been or will be displaced by closing farms, natural disasters and Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Projects, as well as the unemployed and underemployed residents and area youths entering the work force. The College plans to train 460 individuals during the three-year grant period in the fundamentals of building construction, trade apprenticeships, architectural drafting and other vocational programs.

Diamond Level

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Countess Henrietta de Hoernle
Palm Healthcare Foundation
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Platinum Level

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Peter Fuchs
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Lake Worth Dollars For Scholars Foundation
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Mary and Robert Pew Public Education Fund
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Gold Level

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Silver Level

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Bronze Level

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LifeForce

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Yellow Feathers
Jeanne Zenko

Thank You

Forces of Change

Palm Beach Community College 2005-2006

Distance Learning

10,367	Number of students who took at least one class with a Web component*
660	Number of sections offered with a Web component
267	Number of sections offered as pure Internet

*(pure online courses, online/in-class hybrid, Web enhanced)

New Buildings

	Gross Square Footage	Classrooms Labs
Humanities Building Boca Raton	45,361	16
BioScience Complex Palm Beach Gardens	91,978	30
Science Building Lake Worth	54,054	21
Total square footage of new buildings:	191,393	67

Average Age of Students

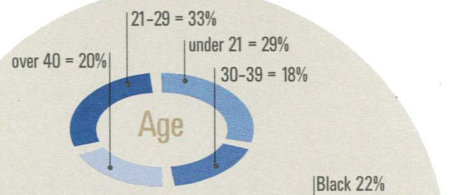
Associate in Arts	24
Associate in Science/ Associate in Applied Science	29
Post Secondary Adult Vocational	33
Average of all students	29

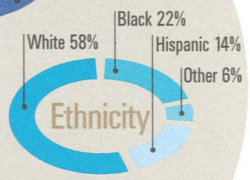
2005-06 Enrollment

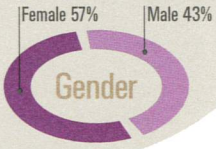
(Unduplicated Headcount)

Credit only	31,932
Noncredit only	14,225
Total Enrollment	46,157

About our students

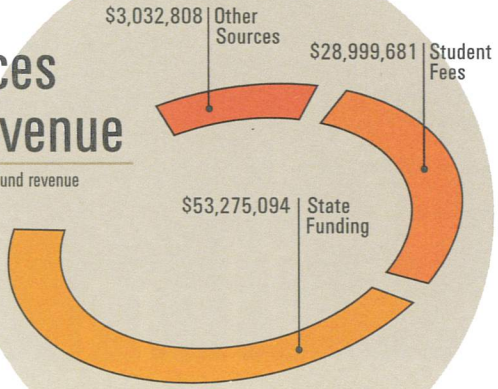






Sources of Revenue

College General Fund revenue 2005-2006



Four Locations.
Endless possibilities...

PBCC at Belle Glade
1977 College Drive
Belle Glade, FL 33430

PBCC at Boca Raton
3000 Saint Lucie Avenue
Boca Raton, FL 33431

PBCC at Lake Worth
4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461

PBCC at Palm Beach Gardens
3160 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

561-967-PBCC

www.pbcc.edu

PBCC President
Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.

Board of Trustees
Susan K. Baumel, Chairperson
Carolyn L. Williams, Vice Chairperson
Kenneth B. Kirby
Larry L. Pelton
David H. Talley
Nina G. Wells, Student Trustee

Accreditation

Palm Beach Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the associate in arts, associate in science and associate in applied science degrees.

Equal Opportunity Policy

It is the policy of Palm Beach Community College not to discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, national origin or disability in any of its educational programs, activities, or employment policies.

College Relations & Marketing

Grace Truman, Ed.D.	Editor
Toni Wolf	Writer
Kari W. McCormick	Designer

Printed on earth-friendly, 100% recycled, 30% post-consumer fiber paper.

Measured environmental benefits of this paper choice:

- 2 tons of wood saved
- 27 million BTUs of electricity and production fuels saved
- 4,026 pounds of CO_2 equivalent greenhouse gases avoided
- 13,160 gallons of wastewater conserved
- 1,553 pounds of solid waste sludge avoided

CRM0507-0099

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